

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

February 21, 2006

Gang-related homicides during the last 5 years have accounted for approximately 50% of all homicides countywide. According to the Los Angeles County Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee's Interagency Gang Task Force, a total of 33 young people who had a prior referral history with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) died as a result of random shootings between the years of 2004 and 2005. It is likely that the majority of these young people fell into gang violence as victims or as gang members themselves. Of the 33 young victims, 10 had open DCFS cases at the time of the fatal incident

DCFS provides the option to select gang awareness and prevention training during a variety of caregiver conferences and trainings. Session topics include information about alcohol, drug use, gang psychology, prevention and intervention strategies. However, in view of the significant amount of gang activity throughout Los Angeles County, there is an urgent need to better prepare caregivers to recognize, intervene and divert children from gangs and thereby from gang related activities.

-MORE-

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

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I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Department of Children and Family Services to report back in 90 days with a plan to enhance and strengthen the provision of gang awareness and prevention education for caregivers, and to inform caregivers about alternative public resources available to keep young people safe from gangs.

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(YBB:ML:sm/GangRelatedHomicide022106)